Appl. No. **09/814,331**
Reply to Office Action of **FEB 05, 2003**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating a porous plastic object having a rough surface to obtain a desired surface appearance, said method comprising :

   a) ~~removing surface porosity of said object~~ infiltrating the pores of said plastic object with a curable polymer;

   b) ~~smoothing said surface with a curable polymeric hardener; and~~ curing said polymer to form an infiltrated surface on said plastic object with a surface roughness (Ra) of 7-10 µm;

   c) ~~curing said hardener~~ applying an external coating of a curable polymeric hardener on said infiltrated surface, said hardener having sufficient viscosity to remain on said infiltrated surface; and

   d) curing said hardener to obtain a matt surface with surface roughness (Ra) of 0.2-0.7 µm.

2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising :

   ~~d)~~ e) sanding, with at least one grade of abrasive, said matt surface to ~~remove~~ further reduce said surface roughness (Ra) of 0.2-0.7 µm.

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 further comprising :

   ~~e)~~ f) applying a layer of lacquer on said matt surface to obtain a glossy ~~appearance~~ surface.

4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3 ~~further comprising :~~ whereby said lacquer may be coloured.

   ~~(f) Colour printing on said surface by cubic printing, tampon printing or letter stanza transfer~~

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3 further comprising :

~~(f)~~ g) ~~Texturing~~ printing on said glossy surface ~~by spray painting~~ to apply graphics to said glossy surface.

6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein said plastic object is ~~produced by~~ made from nylon ~~powder~~ by selective laser sintering ~~of nylon powder~~.

7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A method of treating a porous plastic rapid prototype having a rough surface with miniature steps to obtain a desired surface appearance, said method comprising :

a) infiltrating the pores of said plastic ~~object~~ prototype with a curable polymer;

b) curing said polymer to form an infiltrated surface on said plastic prototype with a surface roughness (Ra) of 7-10 µm;

c) applying an external coating of a curable polymeric hardener, on said infiltrated surface, said hardener having sufficient viscosity to remain on said infiltrated surface and to fill up said miniature steps to form a ~~smooth~~ surface without said miniature steps; and

d) curing said hardener to obtain a matt surface with surface roughness (Ra) of 0.2-0.7 µm.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9 further comprising :

e) sanding, with at least one grade of abrasive, said matt surface to ~~remove~~ further reduce said surface roughness (Ra) of 0.2-0.7 µm.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 10 further comprising :

f) applying a layer of lacquer on said matt surface to obtain a glossy ~~appearance~~ surface.

12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 11 ~~further comprising :~~ whereby said lacquer may be coloured.

~~(f) performing Tampon printing, letter stanza transfer or cubic printing on said surface.~~

13. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~9~~ 11 ~~wherein said prototype is made from nylon using selective laser sintering~~ further comprising:

g) printing on said glossy surface to apply graphics to said glossy surface.

14-26. (Withdrawn)